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The American Library in Paris

ESTABLISHED 1920

e-Libris 30 March 2021

In this message:

- [Welcome: New Programs Manager Alice McCrum](#)
- [Programs for adults](#)
- [Kids' news and events](#)
- [Teens' news and programming](#)
- [In memoriam: Leonard Kniffel](#)
- [Press Room](#)
- [Pandemonium U programs](#)
- [Donate to the Library](#)

In the event that this *e-Libris* is cut short by your email service, please click the link at the bottom of the email to see the newsletter in its entirety.



Welcome to Programs Manager Alice McCrum

We're pleased to announce that Alice McCrum is joining us as our new Programs Manager.

Alice McCrum was born in London but has spent much of her life on the American East Coast. A graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy and Columbia University, Alice moved to Paris last summer. This past year she has worked as a lecturer in English and English literature at the Sorbonne, as well as a research assistant.

Please join us in welcoming Alice during her official debut at [tonight's Evenings with an Author program](#), featuring Lisa See in conversation with Pauline Lemasson. Join us!



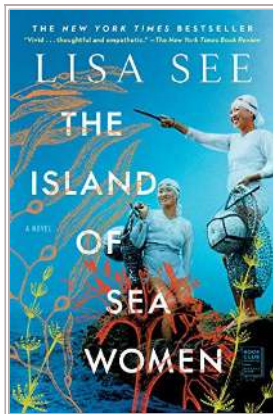
Programs for Adults



GROW@
ANNENBERG

Evenings with an Author and other weeknight programs at the Library are free and open to the public (with a 10€ suggested donation) thanks to support from GROW @ Annenberg, our members, and those who attend programs.

All programs, including book groups, workshops, and *Evenings with an Author* sponsored by GROW @ Annenberg, will continue virtually for the present time.



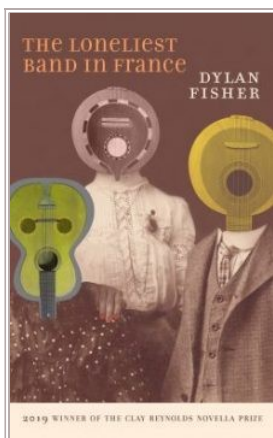
[Evenings with an Author: Lisa See in conversation with Pauline Lemasson](#)

Tuesday 30 March at 19h30

Please join us for a conversation with *New York Times* best-selling author Lisa See about writing, creativity and inspiration, female friendships, and historical research, with particular focus on her novels *Shanghai Girls* (2010), *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* (2017), and *The Island of Sea Women* (2019). See's fiction is widely read and beloved for her deep look into Chinese culture and history. We will discuss her writing process and where she finds creativity and inspiration. This event will be moderated by Pauline Lemasson, a contributing writer for *Inspirelle* and *Untapped Paris*. She was formerly the Strategic Partnerships Manager at the American Library in Paris and Executive Director of the Chinese American Museum in Los Angeles.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



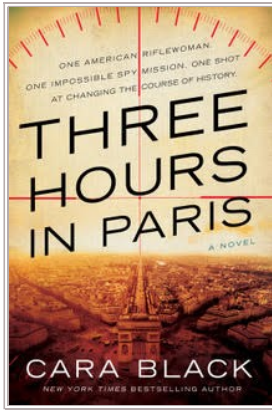
[Evenings with an Author: Dylan Fisher](#)

Wednesday 31 March at 19h30

We welcome you to a conversation with Dylan Fisher, the author of the debut novella *The Loneliest Band in France*, chosen as a *coup de cœur* for the 2020 American Library in Paris Book Award. In the story the titular Loneliest Band in France claims to have a song that can hurt—even kill—its listeners. When Migara, a Sri Lankan student new to Montpellier, is recruited to help debut this murderous song, he's forced to interrogate his relationship with his mother's death, his estranged father, his own aspirations, and the cost of each. The book won the Texas Review Press's 2019 Clay Reynolds Novella Prize.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



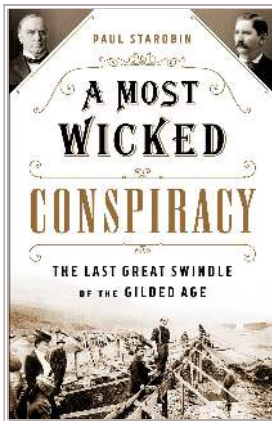
Evenings with an Author: Cara Black

Tuesday 6 April at 19h30

Please join our program with *New York Times* best-selling author Cara Black, writer of the award-nominated and Paris-set Aimée Leduc Investigations crime fiction series. Black will present her new standalone historical thriller, *Three Hours in Paris*. The book reimagines the Paris of June 1940, when the city fell to the Nazis and Hitler visited his prize for three hours, leaving abruptly for reasons that remain unexplained to this day.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



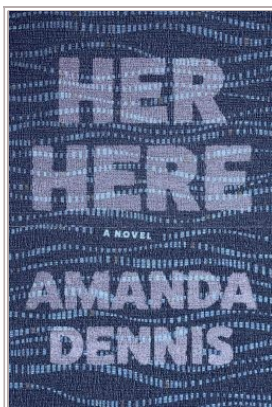
Evenings with an Author: Paul Starobin

Wednesday 7 April at 19h30

Join the Library and Paul Starobin as he presents *A Most Wicked Conspiracy: The Last Great Swindle of the Gilded Age*. In this new book, Starobin recounts the history of the Nome, Alaska Gold Rush of 1900. He details how corrupt political boss Alexander "Big Alex" McKenzie arrived in Alaska from North Dakota, plotted to control the Nome gold fields, and met resistance from judges, miners, and journalists determined to expose his avarice. Starobin is also the author of *Madness Rules the Hour: Charleston, 1860 and the Mania for War* and has written for the *Atlantic*, *Business Week* (as a former Moscow bureau chief), the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Washington Post*, *Politico*, and *National Geographic*.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



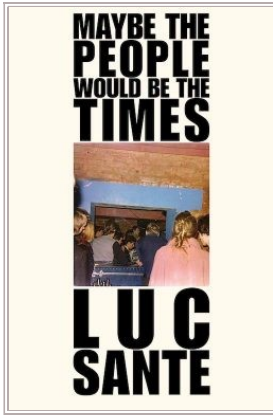
Evenings with an Author: Amanda Dennis in conversation with Rachel Donadio

Tuesday 13 April at 19h30

Evenings with an Author presents author Amanda Dennis, who will be speaking about her latest novel, *Her Here*, in conversation with Rachel Donadio. In *Her Here*, Dennis introduces us to a reckless and unmoored Elena, who abandons her studies and relationship to search for a missing woman. Dennis delivers an existential detective story in a hypnotic and seductive debut. She is an assistant professor of comparative literature and creative writing at the American University of Paris. Rachel Donadio is a Paris-based contributing writer for the *Atlantic*, covering politics and culture across Europe.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.






[Evenings with an Author: Luc Sante in conversation with Mark Braude](#)

Wednesday 14 April at 19h30

Join the Library as we host author and artist Luc Sante, who will speak about his book *Maybe the People Would Be the Times* with fellow writer Mark Braude. This imaginative and experimental autobiography takes place in the 1970s and 1980s on the Lower East Side in New York City and portrays a burgeoning art and music scene with nods to Patti Smith, Rene Ricard, and Georges Simenon. Sante is the author of *The Other Paris*, *Kill All Your Darlings*, and *The Factory of Facts*, with work appearing in the *New York Review of Books*, *Harper's*, and the *New Republic*. In addition to his published work, Sante creates collages and teaches writing and the history of photography at Bard College. Mark Braude is a 2020–2021 Visiting Fellow at the American Library in Paris and author of *The Invisible Emperor: Napoleon on Elba From Exile to Escape*.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.

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-  Past programs are on YouTube, including Pamela Druckerman on her new picture book, "Paris by Phone"; Lexie Bean and Noah Grigni on "The Ship We Built"; Dr. Lisa Feldman Barrett on the brain; and Hala Alyan on her latest novel, "The Arsonists' City."
 -  Listen to our podcast, Evenings with an Author, available wherever you get your podcasts.
 -  Visit our Facebook page for information about upcoming virtual events and Evenings with an Author sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg.



Visiting Fellowship

Writers submit by April 1

[APPLY NOW](#)



Kids and Teens

Children's Programming Highlights

The Library hosts virtual events for all ages. Check out the [online calendar](#) to find out what's coming up, and to register.

“Think of the story you've always wanted to read. Write that story. Think of the characters you've always wanted to read about. Write those characters.”

—Author Kate Gavino, judge, Young Author's Fiction Festival (YAFF)

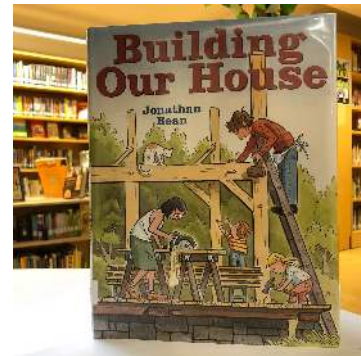
As the 1 April deadline for the [Young Authors Fiction Festival](#) approaches, we've compiled tips from some of the Festival judges to help you polish your writing. Discover their advice on the [Library blog](#). The YAFF judging team is made up of 100 volunteer judges who donate their time and expertise.

[Story Hour: Building and Construction](#)

(ages 3–5)

Wednesday 31 March at 14h30

Find out about building and construction during this live, virtual event. The picture books we'll read include *Building Our House*, written and illustrated by Jonathan Bean. Story Hours are hosted by our children's librarians and volunteers, who will read books and lead you and your little one in songs during a forty-five minute session. For Library members. [RSVP required](#).



[Spring Crafts and Poems](#)

(ages 6-12)

Saturday 3 April at 14h00

We'll create a beautiful bouquet of paper flowers and read spring poems in honor of National Poetry Month, celebrated in April. Caregivers are requested to join in with their children and participate in the program. For Library members. [RSVP required](#).

[Bookworms: Brown Girl Dreaming](#)

(ages 9–12)

Saturday 24 April at 11h00

Celebrate poetry month by reading a novel-in-verse, *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson, and then join in a discussion and related creative activities. Bring your book along to the meeting. Multiple copies of *Brown Girl Dreaming* are available in the Library's collection.

For Library members. [RSVP required](#).

Select Teen Programming

Visit the [website calendar](#) for all upcoming teen programs.

“The process is incredibly fun. Even if you don't get picked [in the top 5], writing a story for yourself is exciting and not like writing for school.”

—George de Menibus, two-time YAFF participant and first-time judge

As the 1 April deadline for the [Young Authors Fiction Festival](#) approaches, we've compiled tips from some of the Festival judges to help you polish your writing. Discover their advice on the [Library](#)

[blog](#). The YAFF judging team is made up of 100 volunteer judges who donate their time and expertise.

Master Shot Film Club

(ages 12–18)

Saturday 3 April at 17h00

The Library's teen filmmaking club welcomes new members throughout the year. Aspiring filmmakers, writers, and actors are invited to join Paris-based filmmaker and writer Clarence Tokley. Once a month teens explore all aspects of film production, including the development and production process, script-writing, camera work, directing, editing, and much more. This group will meet virtually in April. Free and open to the public. [Application required](#).

Teen Night: Blackout Poetry

(ages 12–18)

Friday 16 April at 19h00

April is National Poetry Month! Using magazines and other supplies readily available in most homes, participants will create their own original blackout poetry—a unique style of visual art where the artist blacks out words on a page to create a poem and/or picture. Your poems will come to life with help and encouragement from other creative teens. This event will be hosted virtually via Zoom.

For Library members. [RSVP required](#).



Fantasy Book Club: The Song of Achilles

(ages 12–adult)

Saturday 17 April at 16h00

Join us each month for an animated discussion of great fantasy literature, and explore imaginary worlds and characters with like-minded readers. This month: *The Song of Achilles*, by Madeline Miller. This book club is facilitated by Children's and Teens' Services Manager (and fantasy fan) Celeste Rhoads. New members are always welcome!

For Library members. [RSVP required](#).

In Memoriam

We're sad to report the passing of author, journalist, and librarian Leonard Kniffel. Mr. Kniffel was a longtime supporter of the American Library in Paris and extremely active in the library profession. He was the author of the [cover story](#) about our centennial in *American Libraries*, the magazine of the American Library Association, of which he was a former editor and publisher. He attended our 2020 virtual Gala festivities with other ALA members in Chicago.

Please read the [tribute to Mr. Kniffel in American Libraries](#).



Press Room



Read Director Audrey Chapuis's article in the journal *IdeAs. Idées d'Amériques* from L'Institut des Amériques. Her article is one of several in the journal's latest issue about the centennial of the American Library in Paris. Chapuis reflects on how today's American Library in Paris community mirrors the Library's founding principles and history.

[*The American Library in Paris: An Unlikely Library Marks 100 Years of Service*](#)

Available in English and translated into French.

Pandemonium U



Upcoming virtual events by the Library's partner Pandemonium U:

["Stolen Renoir: The fate of a painting and a family in wartime France," with James McAuley, author of *The House of Fragile Things: Jewish Art Collectors and the Fall of France*](#)

In conversation with Pamela Druckerman and Simon Kuper

Friday April 2 @ 9am Pacific/Noon NY/17:00 London/18:00 Paris

["Me and my microdose: The therapeutic value of psychedelics," with Ayelet Waldman, author of *A Really Good Day*](#)

In conversation with Pamela Druckerman

Friday April 16 @ 9am Pacific/Noon NY/17:00 London/18:00 Paris

Renew your Membership and Consider a Gift

As an independent, non-profit institution, we rely on the support and generosity of our community. How can you help the American Library in Paris throughout the year? Renew your Library membership, make a donation online, and tell your friends about the Library.

RENEW

DONATE

The American Library in Paris is an independent, non-profit institution that receives no regular government funding. Your generosity is essential in keeping the Library vibrant and creative.

All contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

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